

# MARYLAND BOARD OF ENVIROMENTAL HEALTH SPECIALSTS 4201 Patterson Avenue, Baltimore, MD 21215

# OCTOBER 6, 2021 BOARD MEETING OPEN SESSION MINUTES

## Meeting Held via Google Meet

#### **Board Members Present:**

Linda Rudie, Board Chair, Maryland Department of Health Member Alan Heck, Vice Chair, At Large Member Amy Parrish, Private Industry Member Naomi Howell, Department of the Environment Member Ann Rose, At Large Member Erin Kelly, Local Government Member Matthew Cumers, Local Health Department Member

Lewis Brown, Consumer Member

Absent:

Jasen Lau, Consumer Member

Katherine Cummings, AAG, Board Counsel

Staff:

Bert Nixon, Executive Director Donna Zickefoose, Administrator I Deborah Donahue, Deputy Counsel

Visitors:

Kimberly Link, MDH

#### CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order at 10:04 a.m. by Linda Rudie, Board Chair.

**AGENDA** 

The Agenda for the October 6, 2021 meeting was reviewed. Ann Rose made a motion to adopt the Agenda with the addition placed under Executive Director's Report. Alan Heck provided a 2<sup>nd</sup> to the Motion. The Motion passed. 8 in favor, 0 opposed, 0 abstained.

#### ITEM 1

#### **Prior Meeting Minutes**

1(a).

The Open Session Minutes from the August 4, 2021 Meeting were reviewed. Ann Rose made a Motion to Adopt the Minutes as submitted. Naomi Howell provided a 2<sup>nd</sup> to the Motion. Motion passed. 8 in favor, 0 opposed, 0 abstained.

1(b).

The Open Session Minutes from the August 19, 2021 Meeting were reviewed. Alan Heck made a Motion to Adopt the Minutes as amended. Ann Rose provided a 2<sup>nd</sup> to the Motion. Motion passed. 8 in favor, 0 opposed, 0 abstained.

#### ITEM 2

## **Board Chair Report**

2(a).

Board Chair, Linda Rudie, welcomed Bert Nixon as the Executive Director to the

Board.

2(b).

Board Members were reminded of the New Board Member Orientation.

2(c).

The Board will be moving to online payments, renewals and applications.

# Minutes from the Open Session October 6, 2021 Board Meeting

# ITEM 3 Executive Director Report

**3(a).** Executive Director, Bert Nixon, discussed the splitting of licensing renewal cycles. The splitting could be by last name licensees A-L and M-Z.

3(b). The 2021 license expiration current count has 279 licensees who have met their required continuing education credits. There are 157 licensees who have not yet been reviewed fully to determine if they met the continuing education requirement. Board staff continues with entering and updating the continuing education credits for the 2021 licensing cycle.

**3(c).** Stats from the Licensing Database:

- 1. Active Seasonal Certificates 31
- 2. Active Licensed Environmental Health Specialists 508
- 3. Active In-Training Certificates 98
- 4. Active Certificate of Eligibility Certificates 148
- 3(d). Addition to the Agenda Opinion No. 21-01 was provided for the Board to review. The Board voted in favor to post Opinion No. 21-01 on it's Webpage. 8 in favor, opposed, 0 abstained.

## ITEM 4 Credentialing:

No requests or issues for this meeting.

## ITEM 5 Legislative/Regulations Committee

The Committee met and discussed changes to Certificate of Eligibility fees as well as the potential to change or alter regulations to utilize an audit model for continuing education credits. The audit type process needs further review. The Committee has not prepared a regulation draft yet.

# ITEM 6 Work Force Work Group

The group reported that Dr. Mitchell met with Environmental Health Directors and the Environmental Health Liaison Committee. There was a review sent to Budget and Management on the Environmental Sanitarian Series. There has been outreach to the Universities regarding Environmental Health Programs.

#### ITEM 7 Continuing Education Committee

- 7(a). Listed below are the approved trainings presented at the October 6, 2021 for full Board ratification. Ann Rose made a Motion to approve with revisions. Naomi Howell provided a 2<sup>nd</sup> to the Motion. Motion passed. 8 in favor, 0 opposed, 0 abstained.
  - 1. InForm 2021 Regional Meeting (Credits will vary by licensee attendance)
  - 2. Is My Water Safe To Drink (1.5) conditional license
  - 3. Core Level Module 4: Toxicity of Pesticides (2)
  - 4. 2021 Annual Educational Conference (AEC) & Exhibition Three Part Virtual Series (Varoius CUs's per licensee attendance) up to 17
  - 5. Traceback Investigations (20)
  - 6. Control of Listeria Processing Environments (2)
  - 7. Low Water Activity Foods Safety Series: Part 3 of 4 Microbiological Safety of Dried Spices (1)